

FACTS ABOUT EAST TENNESSEE.

Answers to Correspondents.

NO. LXXVII.

We have during the past week received several letters from correspondents, inquiring about matters that are of general interest, we therefore publish the letters and answers. The first is as follows:

CRYSTAL P. O., TAMA CO., IOWA.

May 27, 1872.

EDITORS CHRONICLE: Your favor is received and contents noted, and am well pleased. Enclosed find subscription for six months for your paper, which you will send to the above address.

As I have concluded to move South, to your part of Tennessee, you will oblige me very much if you will answer me the following questions, as it will save me, perhaps, a trip to your State before I move, and extra expense:

What is the price of a good span of horses or mules? Of a good set of harness? What month do you sow winter wheat? Could I rent a house to live in if I should move before buying, and what is rent? When is the best time to buy land, spring or fall? And what are wagons selling for? If you can answer these questions you will oblige me very much.

I have shown circular and specimen copies of your paper to my neighbors and they are well pleased with description of country, price of land and climate, and are just as anxious to go South as I am, and will if they can sell out, for it is too cold here in the winter. Please answer and oblige yours truly, GEO. M. FRANK.

In reply to his first question we have to say that the price of horses, of course, varies very much. A span of good draft horses in good condition for farm work ought to be bought in East Tennessee

about three hundred dollars. In some counties a man with cash could buy at a lower price. We are convenient here to the Southern market and stock generally commands fair prices. Good mules command about the same price as horses. A set of good harness for general farm work is worth about twenty-five dollars.

Winter wheat is sown in this country from the last of September until the middle of November. The most of our farmers get their wheat in before the middle of October, and that seems to be the best time.

Our correspondent will have no trouble in finding a home to rent at fair rates. Houses in towns or city rent from ten to forty dollars per month. Houses in the country generally rent with farm and on shares of the crop raised.

The fall is generally the best time for buying land. The purchaser can then judge of the quality of the land, for the crops are still on it. Most of our farmers make their year's arrangements in the fall. Land is generally rented at that season.

Farmers are generally more in the spirit for trading in the fall than in the spring, and as a general rule, we think the former the better time for purchasers. Our falls are pleasanter than our early springs. The roads are better, more of the land can be inspected and the general condition of the land be better determined.

DELAWARE, O., June 14, 1872.

EDITORS CHRONICLE: Enclosed you will find one dollar for the KNOXVILLE WEEKLY CHRONICLE. I would like to know the average of crops generally; the plentifulness of the fruit crop, such as apples, peaches and cherries, as a general thing and also the different kinds of game such as bear, deer, fox, rabbit, turkey, pheasant, quail and fishes.

Yours respectfully, H. G. HUDSON, Delaware, Ohio.

A full answer to this letter would take much time and space and repeat facts frequently given heretofore.

Our wheat crop this season has been unusually good one. We have reported some fields as yielding thirty-two bushels to the acre. We have reports of many farms giving twenty and twenty-five bushels to the acre. Taking the upland and bottom, the poor land and the rich land, and poor farmers and good farmers all around, the average will be about twelve bushels. With good farming our East Tennessee land ought to do much better. We believe that with the encouragement the yield of this year will give our farmers and with the general improvement in farming now taking place, we shall hereafter have better crops.

We have an abundance of fruit, and our yield is almost always certain. The fruit is not generally of the finer varieties, for our people have not given as much attention to cultivating it as they ought.

We have an abundance of game of the first kind named, in the mountains, and of the smaller game everywhere in the section.

THE COMING VINTAGE.—Recent investigations, says the San Francisco *Atlas*, made by a leading firm engaged in the wine business in this city, make it almost certain that the vintage—though somewhat reduced by the frost in particular localities—will be considerably greater than that of 1871, and will probably foot up fully 8,000,000 gallons, not taking into account the amount of grapes consumed in brandy manufacture, which will be considerable in spite of the burdensome tax imposed upon the business by the government.

FROM NEW YORK.

The Great East River Bridge—Some of the "Reform Leaders"—Facts and Fancies About New York.

Editorial Correspondence.

NEW YORK, June 24, 1872.

One of the greatest engineering achievements of modern times is the building of the great bridge over East river to connect Brooklyn and New York. Though not half completed, I speak of it as an achievement, for the work has progressed far enough to demonstrate that the difficulties apprehended can be overcome. The principal obstacle anticipated was to secure for the immense piers solid foundations. These piers are immense piles of masonry built on the banks of the river and as they must bear the principle strain of the great bridge, are being constructed as strong as possible. The pier on the Brooklyn side is nearly finished. It will be over one hundred feet above the water and is about fifty feet by twenty-five in thickness. A firm foundation was secured for it without much trouble. The New York pier is proving far more expensive and difficult of construction. Its foundation is about seventy-eight feet below high water mark and rests on an immense caisson weighing seven thousand tons. This caisson is built of wood. Its sides are twenty-three feet thick. The interior is a large room, now being filled with concrete to support the roof and sides and hold it in place while the pier is being built upon it. It was towed in position by six tug boats and sunk by putting upon it layers of stone and a pressure of fifty-three thousand tons. Workmen are now down in the inside of this immense structure laying the concrete and securing it in its proper place. Air is forced down into the room by pumps and the men are relieved every two hours. Many of them have suffered intense pain from working in this air. Roebbing, the engineer in charge of the work, says this caisson will last for fifteen years. In the mean time a more permanent foundation will be laid. The bridge will be two hundred feet above the river, and it will be the longest and strongest bridge ever built. It has already cost over two millions of dollars.

THE THIEVES AT WORK.

In the above facts your readers have the data from which they can form some idea of this immense piece of engineering work. The achievement is a grand one. But of course such a fine field for thieves as an enterprise of this magnitude offers, can not be neglected by this rapacious breed. They have their fingers in the bridge treasury and are bleeding it freely. The *World* charges and has strong grounds for its specifications, that the Brooklyn Ring are swindling the bridge company out of thousands of dollars. According to the *World* one of the leaders in this ring is a principal owner in the Brooklyn *Eagle*, one of the leading democratic papers in the United States and just now one of the most zealous journals in the Greeley reform (?) movement.

When I see the Brooklyn Ring that controls and plunders that democratic city fastening its clutches upon this bridge company's treasury; when I think of the millions stolen by the Tammany Ring of New York, in the construction of the City Hall; and when I see the Government postoffice rapidly rearing its magnificent proportions opposite the Astor House, not a dollar of the money appropriated for its construction misappropriated and not a day's time wasted, I am led to wonder that people of sense can not see and appreciate that the difference in the cases cited grows out of the fact that in Brooklyn and New York the plunderers are upheld and protected by Democratic officials, while in the government work, the honesty and efficiency of President Grant's administration protects the public treasury. The Treasury Department under Mr. Mullett, expends annually millions of dollars in erecting public buildings at various points in the country, but, so far, even after searching investigation upon charges openly preferred in Congress, not a dollar of the heavy appropriations has been stolen.

The Tammany and Brooklyn thieves are of course active Greeley reformers, while the honest Treasury architect and his associates are malign as part and parcel of "Grant's corrupt Ring."

The New York postoffice building is progressing rapidly. The second story is nearly completed. It will be the finest building of the kind on the continent. As the beauty and grandeur of the structure become more apparent, thousands stop on Broadway every day to admire.

NEW YORK ITEMS.

The heat has been intense in New York for several days. One soda water vender disposed of thirteen thousand five hundred glasses, ice cold, last Saturday.

Excursions are the mania, and all the accessible groves within thirty miles of the city are in use every day.

New Yorkers are fleeing to the country or to Europe. By the fourth of July all the summer resorts will be crowded. About fifteen steamers leave this port every week for Europe and all go out crowded. State rooms in some of the steamers are spoken for weeks ahead. Over fourteen thousand passengers were landed in New York in May from Liverpool alone.

I see a New York fashion journal says that of all the fashionable thousands of ladies that visited the Jerome Park Races, not one wore a "Dolly Varden." Ladies assure me that this style of dresses has been ridiculed out of fashion by the press. The tradesmen are disgusted, and Stewart is selling a few of the "Dolly Varden" pattern at ruinously low prices. The fashionable lady readers of the *CHRONICLE* can act accordingly.

A number of wealthy Hebrews in New York intend to start a daily newspaper there. They are prepared to risk half a million dollars in such an enterprise, or more if it be required. They have made several ineffectual efforts to buy an established journal in that city, offering, it is understood, as much as a million dollars.

HOME NEWS.

HOT WEATHER AND SUNSTROKE.

Indian Outrages in New Mexico.

NEW YORK, July 1.—The weather last night and to-day was intensely hot, the thermometer continuing at about 90 degrees. The reports from the Eastern States represent the heat as being very great yesterday.

Long lists of sunstroke victims were published this morning.

St. Louis, June 29.—The *Denver Tribune* of a late date says editorially that various correspondents of that paper in Southern Colorado and New Mexico state that extensive and combined depredations are seriously apprehended in sparsely settled parts of these territories. The Kiowas, Arapahoes, Cheyennes, Camanches, Navajos and Apaches have held frequent councils during the past winter, at which it was endeavored to dissipate all tribal prejudices and effect a combination for a general Indian war. The recent murders and robberies in New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and other places are referred to as evidence of the intention of the Indians, but whether a complete combination has been effected is not known.

FOREIGN.

The San Juan Boundary Question.

BERLIN, July 1.—The arbitration on the San Juan boundary question will now proceed. Bismarck is about to appoint international jurists to examine the papers submitted by the English and American governments and report to the Emperor.

LONDON, June 28.—The statements of Granville and Gladstone in Parliament last night announcing the decision of the Tribunal of Arbitration on indirect claims form the subject of the leading editorial articles of all the London morning journals. The *Times* says the decision of the Tribunal of Arbitration is eminently satisfactory. All Englishmen and Americans ought to be grateful to the Arbitrators, who have proved themselves true benefactors of both England and America. The man who secured America from discredit is Charles Francis Adams.

The *News* says the result of the indirect claims controversy is a great triumph for the firmness and patience of the British ministry. Society has now an example for the employment of peaceful tribunals not to complete but to supersede the work of the sword.

Other morning newspapers are likewise rejoicing over the manner in which disputes between two governments have been settled.

NEW WHEAT IN THE MARKET.

Special to the Daily Chronicle.

CHARLESTON, TENN., June 28, 1872.

There has been ten car loads of new wheat shipped from here. Who beats this since the twenty-first instant?

W. L. MCKNIGHT.

DEMOCRATS IN COUNCIL.

A Secret Conclave.

The County to be Governed by a Town Clique.

Early in the forenoon of yesterday, it became noised around that a few gentlemen claiming to represent the untitled Democracy of this county, were about to assume an important task—that of saving the good people of Knox county the trouble of selecting their county officers, as they had expected to do at the ensuing August election. The matter had been kept a profound secret except with the invited few, and orthodox Democrats or Conservatives were noticed tramping around town in search of the headquarters of this self-constituted clique, acting in the capacity of guardians for the good people. We do not know who were present, but have no doubt that the leaders were the same who led in legislating Judge Jones out of office with a view of creating a position for some one of their friends as Judge of a Criminal Court. They are the same men who provided for an Attorney General for Knox county, with a view of getting rid of Col. J. M. Thornburgh. Although there is not exceeding a half dozen of these men, they act as if they held a deed in fee simple to the voters of Knox county, and as if the said voters must not think of acting contrary to their will.

They held their meeting in the office of Capt. John M. Brooks, and after exchanging notes and discussing the claims of various gentlemen whom they graciously condescended to present to their wards, the voters of the county, they agreed that for the office of sheriff, A. S. Hubbard may be voted for, but that the name of Mr. William Lewis must be dropped.

For the office of Attorney General it was decided that the people may vote for J. C. J. Williams, but they must not vote for Mr. James King or for Major L. A. Grant.

Dick McCallum and J. C. Mynatt, Esqrs., appeared before the committee of Simon pure Democrats humble supplicants for the privilege of being voted for for the office of tax collector. Esquire Mynatt being a young man it was decided that he could afford to wait, and the people were informed that they may vote for our genial friend Dick.

Captain James Boyd seemed to be in high favor in the caucus and without opposition it was decided that he would be a proper person to vote for for trustee.

It was further decided that J. M. Yarnall, Esq., might be voted for for the office of County Court Clerk. Thus in this secret conclave, from which even Democrats who had not been previously invited were excluded, a ticket is made up for the people to vote for. Heretofore the people of Knox county have made merit the test for office—now the will of a self-constituted committee, appointed by a little town clique, is the law by which voters are to be governed. The Whites, the McCammons, the Craigs, the Halls, the Grippens and the Barrys were selected by all the people at the ballot box, and the fidelity with which they performed their various duties is evidence sufficient to prove the wisdom of the old time way. Now we see a few men gathered in a private room in the second story of a building, with closed doors, dictating to the people who they shall vote for for the various county offices. Here is civil service reform for you. Here is true Democracy. Here you see something of the abominations of a secret caucus system against which virtuous Democrats have inveighed with so much ill-concealed hypocrisy.

FROM WASHINGTON.

A Review of the Political Field—Why Grant Will be Re-Elected—How the States Will Vote.

Editorial Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, June 26, 1872.

I have read a great deal in reform (?) journals about the great revolution in public sentiment effected by the Cincinnati movement and about the great "ground swell of patriotism" that is to carry Greeley into the White House. When I left Tennessee I judged that some of this change in public sentiment had taken place in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey or Connecticut. I expected, therefore, to be able by personal observation to detect it in some of those States. But after careful examination in parts of each of the States named I found that so far from there being any enthusiasm over Greeley there was only general disgust and disappointment at the ridiculous result of a movement that once promised to end at Cincinnati with a nomination that would command the respect of foes and the hearty support of friends. When I spoke to Greeley men of the absence of all the popular enthusiasm promised I was told it was not yet developed, but would be as the canvass progressed; or that it was more demonstrative among the farmers than among city people who cared little for politics. But the further I went and the closer I searched for this "ground swell of patriotism" the more evident it seemed that it existed only in the imagination of Greeley's friends and strikers, composed almost entirely of disappointed politicians and adventurers who have everything to gain and nothing to lose in the canvass. In New York I had by personal knowledge, striking evidence of the falsehoods put forth to give character and strength to the Greeley movement. The *Sun* and the *Tribune* reported men for Greeley and meetings for Greeley, that of my own knowledge I knew were made up deliberately for public effect. I might give instances, but space forbids. I only refer to it to show what means are used to create an impression that the Greeley movement is a people's movement. In a few words I can sum up the results of my observation from actual contact with people of all classes.

The Cincinnati nominees, so far, have been bolstered up by the politicians. The people have as yet shown no enthusiasm or interest in the ticket. The honest truth is, that the striking unfitness of Greeley for President and the manner by which his nomination was secured have repelled the people from the ticket. The free trade element, the real reform element and the German element, the three leading classes that composed the Cincinnati movement, were all disgusted with the nomination. This is a notorious fact. The politicians, whose only chance was in Greeley's success, have, by every appliance known to their craft, worked upon these elements until now a part of them acquiesce. This is the truth and expresses the situation. They reluctantly give up their opposition, but to say that they do more is untrue. Of course there can be no enthusiasm under such circumstances.

With this as the result of my observations in the States named, I came here to examine into

THE OUTLOOK FROM WASHINGTON.

This is the great political center where the work of the canvass is mapped out and the organization to carry it out effected. At the headquarters of the several committees, reliable information is daily received from every State and section.

I have in former letters given it as my belief that Greeley would be nominated at Baltimore. I find among very shrewd politicians in Washington an opinion prevailing that his success is not by any means certain. They think that within the past few days the opposition has taken new courage and that influences enough will be brought to Baltimore to save Democracy from the contemplated surrender. I am satisfied, however, from what I learned in New York of the Greeley programme that his strikers have the wires all laid and that the straight-out Democrats at Baltimore will be overwhelmed.

In fact I overheard one of Greeley's unscrupulous chiefs boast in the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, that they (the Greeley men) had the Baltimore Convention all in their own hands. This man was one of the chief manipulators in the Cincinnati Convention and boasts to-day of how he and his associates broke down Bowles-White-Watterson-Schurz & Co. He is one of the reformers (?) and proposes now to take in hand the Democracy and put it through. The contest will therefore be between Grant and Greeley.

I have heretofore referred to the strong business and non-partisan influences rallying around General Grant. The masses of the people are for him, because they know what he will do, while the grave apprehensions created by Greeley's many eccentricities serve to drive from him thousands who would under other circumstances risk a change. I am more than ever satisfied that the dissatisfaction with Greeley's nomination will drive to Grant tens of thousands of voters alienated from him by the constantly repeated slanders that have been heaped upon him.

Many influences not easily understood or described are acting in Grant's favor as they always do for the party in power, and these, with those I have particularized are strong enough to give him the election.

A. J. R.

Mr. B. F. Wade says that "when a great political party has become so consciously depraved that they feel there is no hope of reform, a tide may perhaps in such case be virtue, and such seems to be the condition of the Democratic party at this time. By adopting Mr. Greeley as their standard bearer they deliberately admit, if they are honest, that the poorest, weakest, most vacillating and uncertain Republican man improvement on anything to be found in their own party."

Campaign Notes.

A correspondent from Trenton says fully one-third of the Democratic Convention of the 26th were opposed to Greeley. After the Convention adjourned bets were freely offered by Democratic delegates that New Jersey would vote for Grant, but no takers were found.

A Germantown (Pa.) Democrat offers to give the names of fifty Democrats in that place who will vote for Grant before Greeley.

Few people will feel sorry at the defeat of Farnsworth before the Republican Convention of his District in Illinois and the selection of General Stephen A. Hurlbut. Farnsworth has distinguished himself for nothing except grumbling.

Judge Settle, Republican candidate for Congress in North Carolina, was rottened at Yanceyville on the 23d. Senator Stephens was murdered at the same place three years before by the kuklux.

The New York *World's* Washington correspondent telegraphs under date of the 26th that a newspaper man friendly to Greeley has just returned from Pennsylvania, and after a careful canvass found but a corporal's guard of Republicans for Greeley. His dispatch closed as follows: "The substance of this inquiry therefore is, that in the great State which holds the balance of power in the November contest, Mr. Greeley as a candidate commands no Republican votes, and divides the Democratic party."

"Mack" writes from Springfield about the Illinois fusion as follows: "The ticket as it stands is an exceedingly weak one. Every man on it who doesn't drink too much beer drinks too much whisky, and it challenges the hostility of the religious element by the avowed atheism of at least two of its candidates. This criticism is not of my making, but is loudly uttered by many of the best men who participated in the convention. There are twenty influential Liberals who have already bolted it, and more of them will bolt it before the close of the week."

General Bradley Johnson, who commanded the prison pens at Saubersbury, N. C., during the war is a strong advocate of Greeley's election.

The Chicago *Inter-Ocean* gives a list of the fifty-five delegates from Chicago to the Liberal State Convention of Illinois. It classifies them as follows: "Eighteen defeated candidates for office, nine ex-officers and six office holders." Of course they are all reformers.

The New York *World* says: "The whole system of National Conventions is a fraud. Under the false pretence of representing the people they represent only the ambition and wishes of politicians by trade." It concludes by saying that the Baltimore Convention to nominate Greeley will be a farce.

Senator Thurman delivered the annual address to the students of the University of Virginia. He inveighed against the political school books of the age, and concluded by advising the students to have their own literature, their own press and their own institutions of learning and do their own thinking.

The Democrats, faithful to the old principles of the party are issuing secret circulars for a bolting convention in case Greeley carries off the Baltimore Convention of office seekers.

Nearly all the religious press of the country is opposed to Greeley. The *Christian Union*, the *Independent*, the *Methodist*, the *Observer*, and the *Catholic* press, the *Tablet*, the *Freeman's Journal* and the *Catholic Telegraph* all oppose Greeley because of his peculiar religious views.

Isam G. Harris supports Greeley but he doesn't love him. Some one suggested that Greeley would look better if he would shave his chin. "Oh, yes," replied Harris, "but it would suit me a great deal better if he would shave everything off close to his shoulders."

ROCKWOOD COAL BANK ON FIRE.

Nearly Four Days' Fighting with the Flames.

The Chattanooga *Herald* of yesterday states that the ventilating flue of the Rockwood Coal Bank caught fire last Tuesday night and burned most furiously until Saturday, when, by the most determined efforts, it was extinguished. The fire goes up from the rooms below through over a hundred feet of solid coal; a fire is kept at the bottom of this shaft to stimulate the draft, and, it is supposed, communicated to the surrounding coal. The rooms below being so large, it was found impossible to shut off the supply of air from below, and the white blaze shot up over one hundred feet into the air. The plan used to extinguish the fire was to dig out the burning coal from below and put it out with water brought in buckets from the drain in the interior of the mine, some three hundred feet distant. Fifty men were kept at this day and night, from Wednesday morning until Saturday at noon.

The fire had penetrated over thirty feet into the solid coal on one side, and only five or six feet on the other, and to dig out this mass of red hot coal was terrible work. Water had no effect on it until it was dug loose, and the heat and steam was suffocating; but the men, led by Capt. Harris, the coal boss, worked with a will, and succeeded in saving the great coal property. The heat was so great as to melt the iron roof, which dripped down in waxy puddles, hardening into masses of lava-looking cinder.

The company are now erecting a brick stack outside of the bank, at the mouth of the ventilating shaft, in which the fire will be kept, precluding any possibility of the fire coming in contact with the coal again. The long dry season we have had dried the coal so thoroughly as to cause it to ignite. Ordinarily the coal is kept wet with surface water oozing through it, but this year has been so dry as to stop this.

Preparations for building the new furnace are progressing favorably.

Sunday School Celebration.

The Sunday School celebration at Careyville on the fourth instant promises to be one of the most interesting occasions of the season. A special train will leave the Knoxville and Ohio depot on Thursday morning at seven o'clock, at which time all who intend going will be present. The schools will be addressed by Messrs. Washburne, Hunt, Stacy, Andrews and others. The Mechanics' Cornet Band will furnish the music on the occasion.